

INFORMATION REPORT

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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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SOURCE:

Moslem Mosques in Peiping

- In July 1954 there were 44 mosques in the Peiping area, which is the same number that existed prior to the occupation of the city by the Chinese Communists in February 1949. Thirty-nine of them were at the following sites:

Ch'ien Wai Sao Chou (0467/1120/2217/1590) Hutung.
T'ien Ch'iao (1131/2890).
Hua Shih (5363/1395), outside Ha Te (0761/1795) Gate.
T'ang Tzu (1016/1311) Hutung.
T'ang Tao Erh (0781/0430/0348) Hutung.
Lei Chia (7191/1367) Hutung.
Hsuan Wai Niu (1357/1120/3662) Hutung.
Hsuan Wai Chiao Tzu (1357/1120/6569/1311) Hutung.
Shou Liu (1108/3177) Hutung.
Hsi Tan P'ai Lou (6007/0830/3654/2869).
Chin Shih Fang (6930/1709/2075) Street.
Shou Pei (1343/0271) Hutung.
Tou Fu (6258/5201) Hutung.
Kou Yen (3297/3116).
Shih Chia Hai (2457/1367/3189).
Erh T'iao (0059/2742) Hutung, inside An Ting (1344/1353) Gate.
Tung Szu P'ai Lou (2639/0934/3654/2869).
Lu Mi Ts'ang (4845/4717/0221).
Tou Ya Ts'ai (6258/5370/5475) Hutung.
Su Chia (5685/1367) Hutung.
Wang Fu Ching Ting Tzu (3769/1650/0064/0002/1316) Street.
Fen Tzu (4720/1311) Hutung.

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Date of Info.—The date or dates on which, or between which, the events described in the report occurred or the conditions described existed.

Place Acquired.—The place where the information was first acquired by a controlled individual. A date following in parentheses indicates when the information was acquired.

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A: Completely reliable. B: Usually reliable. C: Fairly reliable. D: Not usually reliable.
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1: Confirmed by other independent and reliable sources. 2: Probably true. 3: Possibly true.
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An Ting (1344/1353) Gate.
 Te Sheng (1795/0524) Gate.
 Chien Tzu (0477/1311) Hutung.
 Ch'anghsintien (N 39-49, E 116-12), south of Peiping.
 P'ing Tse (1627/0463) Gate.
 Sen Li Ho (0005/6849/3109).
 Hai Tien (3189/3949).
 An Hui Ch'iao (1344/1798/2890).
 Mu Tien (7456/1648).
 Hsi Chih (6007/4160) Gate.
 Tung Chih (2639/4160) Gate.
 Shang P'o (0006/0980), outside Ch'ao Yang (2600/7122) Gate.
 Hsia P'o (0007/0980), outside Ch'ao Yang Gate.
 Pa Li Chuang (0360/6849/1641).
 Hsiao Hung Men (1420/4767/7024).
 Nanyuan (N 39-48, E 116-24), south of Peiping.
 Ch'ingho (N 40-02, E 116-18), north of Peiping.

2. In 1952 the operations of the Moslem Mu Te (4476/1795) Primary School and the primary school attached to the mosque at San Li Ho were suspended by order of the Communist authorities. A primary school was attached to each of the other mosques with the exception of the mosque at Tung Szu Pai Lou. This mosque housed the Moslem College and offered a short language course of instruction. The Moslem College was the highest Moslem institution in Peiping.
3. In early 1953 the Communist authorities in Peiping assigned one Moslem secretary to each mosque in the city. This secretary was referred to as the secretary-in-charge of the mosque.
4. The main mission of this secretary was to observe all activities at the mosque. Each week, before the Friday services, the secretary gave the chief priest a copy of the week's important news. The secretary obtained this news copy from his superiors. The chief priest used the news copy during his sermon at the Friday services. The chief priest prepared his Friday sermon some time before the services and had to submit his sermon to the secretary for approval. Sometimes the chief priest requested the secretary to prepare the sermon.

Communist Guidance of the North China Moslems

5. In early 1953 the Chinese Communist authorities ordered each mosque on the mainland to select and send one student to undergo a course of study at the Peiping Moslem College. Each selected student was to have two principal qualifications: "clear mindedness" and progressiveness." No consideration was given to the student's knowledge of or proficiency in the Arabic language. After the students were graduated from the Peiping Moslem College, they were to be returned to their original mosques to preach.
6. From early 1953 to July 1954 the government selected and sent 60 moslem students to the USSR for training. The students were dispatched in three separate groups of 20 students each.
7. The college officials had, by July 1954, assigned 40 Moslem pupils to the Moslem college at Tung Szu Pai Lou in Peiping. While at the college the students received training in the Arabic language and a course of instruction in minority groups. The training course was called the special short training class. After the training was completed, 20 students from the 40-student group were to be selected and sent to the USSR for training. In July some of these students were getting ready to depart for the USSR.

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8. The government, in early 1954, began encouraging Communist cadres to marry Moslem men and women. If these mixed marriages met with parental opposition arising from conflict with Moslem laws and customs, Communist authorities cited the new marriage law. Between January and July, 1954, there had been approximately 40 marriages between Moslems and non-Moslems in the Harbin area.
9. In a series of issuances during the period between March and August 1954, Communist authorities in Peiping expressed dissatisfaction with the Special Handicraft Association for failure to cooperate with the government. This association, which is a trading and crafts guild within the Communist-sponsored federation of Labor and Commerce Unions (sic) in Peiping, was charged with operating entirely for profit, in violation of government regulations. The association's members, whose occupations include sculpture and work in jade, silk, enamel, lacquer, and metal, felt that they had no future under the Communist regime, regardless of whether they cooperated, and consequently were apathetic in their work.
10. In February 1954 Chinese Communist authorities at Harbin ordered all slaughterhouses to electrocute cattle before slaughtering; Communist authorities at Mukden directed that cattle be knocked unconscious with steel hammers before slaughtering. Neither method of slaughter was consistent with Mohammedan ritual. The Mukden Moslem leader, a 74-year-old native of Peiping named YU Shao-chai (0060/1421/7872), and seven other Moslem leaders from Mukden and Harbin protested to the authorities. The Moslems requested that the cattle be slaughtered with knives, without the animals being rendered unconscious. This request was refused on the grounds that the Moslem practice was inhuman. YU Shao-chai fainted upon receiving this refusal, and six hours later he died.
11. In the winter of 1953, when meat could not be bought by most people in Peiping, Moslems were adequately supplied with mutton and beef. Each Moslem was rationed one catty of sesame oil a month, which was more than the general ration. This was part of the policy of the government aimed at securing the support of minority religious groups. Also, if charged with wrong-doing, a Moslem could have his punishment reduced if his leader interceded in his behalf.
12. In mid-August 1954 MA Sung-t'ing (7456/2646/0080), the vice-chairman of the Moslem Cultural Association and chief muezzin of the mosque at the Hsi Tan P'ai Lou, Peiping, and TA P'u-sheng (6671/3184/3932), the vice-chairman of the Chinese Moslems Association, submitted a letter to the Chinese Communist authorities on behalf of Chinese Moslems, expressing their support of the government. The letter included stories about the oppression of Moslems on Taiwan. After MA returned to the Chinese mainland from Hong Kong, on 30 July 1952, he wrote three confessional reports to the Communist authorities. These reports were refused on the grounds that MA had gone to Egypt after the fall of the mainland, and that he had served for a short period of time as the chief muezzin of the mosque in Taipei. However, after TA P'u-sheng and MA Chien (7456/1017), who had been selected by the Moslem group in Peiping to be his character references, had urged the Communist authorities to place MA Sung-t'ing in a key post in order to lead the Moslems in their work toward the reconstruction of new China, MA was given the positions named above. MA Sung-t'ing, TA P'u-sheng, and MA Chien in August 1954 were the only Moslems in Peiping who owned automobiles.
13. In early 1952, MA Szu-erh (7456/0934/0348), a 41-year-old Moslem and a resident of Peiping, was deported to Shangtu (N 41-31, E 113-41) Hsien by the Chinese Communists. Upon MA's arrival at Shangtu, he was given a small amount of rice and some farming tools and was expected to settle there and build homes. MA was a member of the first group sent to Shangtu, the group numbering approximately 70 persons. In late 1952 approximately half of the first group had died, either by suicide or by illness. In early 1953 MA escaped from Shangtu and went to Peiping. He received shelter and food from small mosques along the way. When MA arrived in Peiping, he was sheltered by some of the smaller mosques there,

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and in return for shelter MA worked at odd jobs for the mosques. In early August 1954, MA was still undiscovered by the Chinese Communists. MA stated that if he were caught by the Communists he would be shot. MA believed, however, that death would be better than the work he was forced to do at Shangtu.

14. CH'ANG Sung-ling (1603/2646/7881) died from starvation on 7 July 1954 and was buried according to the Moslem faith in Peiping. CH'ANG was a 38-year-old Moslem and a resident of Peiping; before the Communist occupation of the mainland he had been a jade merchant. During the Sino-Japanese War, CH'ANG worked as an agent for LI Kuo-chang (2621/0948/4545).² After the end of the Japanese War CH'ANG continued in this capacity. During the Five-anti's purge, CH'ANG's property was confiscated; and he was forced to become an entertainer, playing the violin for a living. In March 1954 the authorities discovered a photograph that had been taken of CH'ANG and LI together. After this photograph was discovered, CH'ANG was made to report to an office of the Public Security Bureau twice each day. Any persons who knew CH'ANG or came into contact with him were questioned by the authorities, and the people who formerly hired him to play the violin refused to employ him. CH'ANG finally died of starvation and was buried by the mosque he attended. Moslem law requires that mosques must take care of burials of Moslems who have no individuals capable of assuming the duty.
15. Persons residing in Peiping who were classified as "special census" cases were not permitted to lock their doors at any time during the day, were forced to report to the security authorities twice a day, and were not allowed to leave Peiping. One such special census person was MA Shao-ch'en (7456/1421/5256), a 67-year-old Moslem, a former curio dealer. While the Chinese Nationalists governed the mainland, MA was the head of the Ch'ien Men Wai Fang (0467/7024/1120/2075) Ward of Peiping. Since his record was clean, the Communist authorities did not shoot him when they took over Peiping; but instead they placed his name on the "special census" list.

Source Comments

1. The language may have been Arabic.
2. If such non-Moslem marriage practices are further encouraged, the Moham-
medan faith will become extinct in China.
2. [REDACTED] Comment. LI Kuo-chang was not further described by informant or
source.

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